



Memo

TO: Members of the 82nd Texas House of Representatives

FROM: Representative Burt R. Solomons
Mr. Chris Griesel, House Parliamentarian

DATE: January 20, 2011

RE: HR 4, Proposed Texas House Rules

Thank you for your input on the House Rules over the past couple of weeks, it was greatly appreciated. The House Resolution which represents the proposed House Rules for the 82nd Legislature has been filed and is electronically available for your review through the Texas Legislative Information System. It will lay out over the weekend and be considered on Monday, January 24, 2010. Hopefully this will give you plenty of time to review the proposed document and prepare any questions, comments, or amendments for Monday's debate. For your convenience, I have included a synopsis of the substantive changes.

If you have further questions, comments, or need clarifications regarding this House Resolution, please do not hesitate to contact either of us. Our offices will be able to provide you with our contact information if we are not immediately available. The House Parliamentarian's office will be open over the weekend and you may contact that office directly at 463-2003. Representative Solomons will be available over the weekend by cell phone. You may contact his office at 463-0478 for that number.

Synopsis of Substantive Changes to the House Rules

1. Throughout the House Rules, references have been changed from having committee reports, senate amendments, conference committee reports, fiscal notes, impact statements, analyses, calendars, and other items required under the rules from being printed and distributed in your mailboxes to being electronically posted and notices being provided for specific items (please see items below for further details) to a capitol email address designated by each Representative.
2. Requires the Chief Clerk of the House to provide notice to a Capitol email designated by each member when a new house calendar or list of items eligible for consideration is posted to the electronic legislative information system. Members may choose to have paper copies delivered to their mailboxes as soon as possible after the electronic copy is posted. pg. 14
3. Two additional committees were created:
 - a. The Economic and Small Business Development and Workforce Committee with 7 members, pp. 29-30;
 - b. Government Efficiency and Reform Committee with 7 members,. pp. 32-33;
 - c. The Public Safety Committee had homeland security issues added to their jurisdiction, pp. 33-34;
 - d. Technology, Economic Development, and Workforce was renamed the Technology Committee and its jurisdiction was changed to reflect the creation of the Economic and Small Business Development and Workforce Committee and its membership was reduced to 5 members. pp. 44-45;
 - e. Membership of committees were adjusted to reflect the addition of two committees as follows:
 - i. Business and Industry was reduced from 11 to 9;
 - ii. Calendars was increased from 13 to 15;
 - iii. Corrections was reduced from 11 to 9;
 - iv. Criminal Jurisprudence was reduced from 11 to 9;
 - v. Redistricting was increased from 15 to 17;
 - vi. State Affairs was decreased from 15 to 13;
 - vii. Urban Affairs was decreased from 11 to 9;
4. The Chief Clerk shall provide notice to each member at the member's designated Capitol email address when a committee report for a Sunset Bill is delivered to a Calendars Committee. pg. 73
5. Consideration of bills on a local, consent, and resolutions calendar may not exceed one calendar day. Bills or resolutions on these calendars which are not heard within the one calendar must roll over to the next local, consent and resolutions calendar in the order in which they were originally set with older items appearing first. pp. 112-113
6. The list of items for consideration must list house bills with senate amendment and must include the number of amendments and length. pp/ 146-147
7. The number of amendments needed to be filed with the chief clerk were reduced. pp. 160-161
8. The House Chair of the Conference Committee on the General Appropriations Committee may ask for the assistance of any member of the Appropriations Committee. pg. 174
9. The layout period for a resolutions suspending limitations on a conference committee

considering the general appropriation bill is 48 hours during regular session and 24 hours in a special session. pg. 179